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# World's Largest Flood Dam Waits Opening of Bids

Los Angeles County Supervisors to Award San Gabriel Contract

For a group of America's greatest construction engineers and contractors July 11 at 10 o'clock in the morning is to be zero hour, when the Board of Supervisors of Los Angeles County will open bids and award contracts for the building of the world's largest dam, in the San Gabriel Canyon.

The \$25,000,000 project, bigger in every way than five of the world's greatest dams combined, and bigger than nine of the biggest dams of the United States combined, has attracted builders of international reputation to the city of Azusa, at the mouth of the canyon and 11 miles from the dam-site, as well as to the offices of the flood control district in the hall of records.

Three proposals are offered by the flood control district upon which construction firms may bid. In the first the contractor is asked to furnish all concrete aggregates, which means that he will supply 3,250,000 cubic yards of concrete and all necessary material called for by the work. In the second, the proposal is that the flood control district will supply 50 percent and the contractor 50 percent of all aggregates; and in the third, the flood control district proposes to supply all concrete aggregates. In crushed rock alone the project will absorb a quantity equivalent to the total output for one year of the largest rock company in the world, or the combined output of all rock companies of Southern California for six months of 24 hours of operation seven days in the week.

From July of this year the work will extend for five years to completion, involving the continuous maintenance of a city of from 2500 to 4000 employees at the fork of the river. A railroad, 11 miles in length, from the main line at Azusa to the dam-site is under construction on a 2-percent compensated grade and over a roadbed with rails flush to the surface in order that mixed traffic can be accommodated.

The dam, 438 feet above foundation, 378 feet above stream-bed, and 30 feet thick from base to heel, will have a capacity of 180,000 acre-feet, which is 6,516,900,000 miner's inches, or 108,000,000 decimal hour inches. The longest shore line at time of capacity will be 80 miles, extending in three directions, east, west and north of the dam. Of its capacity 65,000 acre feet is designed for storage, the remainder being for flood control.

A feature of the construction is that at no time will the natural flow of the river be impeded or diverted to cause any inconvenience to the water users of Azusa, Covina, Balaire Park, Duarte, El Monte, Whittier, and the communities of the lower coastal plain.

Under the direction of Supervisor Fred T. Beatty, reconnaissance surveys are now being made for the building of a 30-mile mountain road up the east fork, to connect with Big Pine Camp, the county's recreation ground on the border of San Bernardino County, which will complete a circle through the heart of the Sierra Madre range from Azusa to Upland and Ontario. This road will border the longest stretch of the artificial lake created by the dam. Another road is in process of building from Little Dalton Canyon, near Glendora, to a point in the canyon three miles below the dam, and tentative surveys are being made for a road up the north fork above the dam to Cold Brook Camp, Mount Islip, down Little Rock Creek to the Antelope Valley, creating the shortest and most scenic route between Bakersfield and San Diego.

The San Gabriel Canyon, according to members of the board, is destined to become Southern California's greatest mountain playground, as well as being the location of the world's largest dam.

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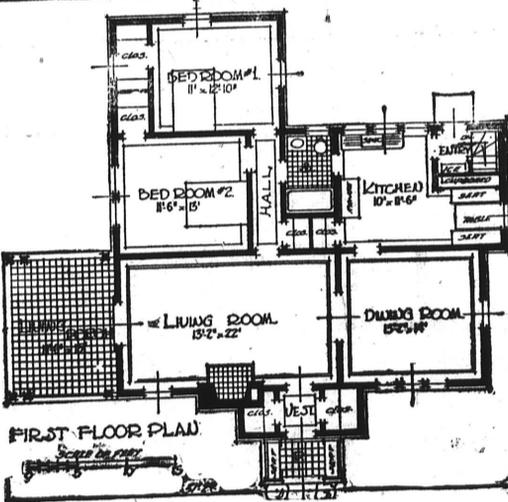
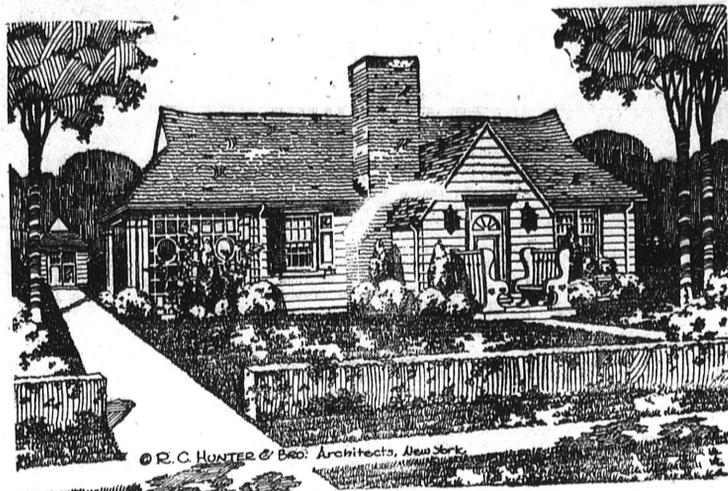
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